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THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1909.

Mr. Carnegie's Peace Plan.

Andrew Carnegie has offered what he
considers a practicable plan for the limita-
tion of naval expansion and the preservation
of international peace. It consists
of an agreement between the United
States and Great Britain for the mutual
protection of their respective possessions
in the Atlantic and Pacific: America to
defend against attack British possessions
in the New World, and Britain to defend
against attack the Philippines, Hawaii,
and the Pacific Coast.

To many this will seem a chimerical
scheme, and there are, in fact, serious
objections to it, both political and tactical;
but the general idea of a common
purpose in the development of Anglo-
American sea-power is one that has much
to commend it, and it may eventually
prove fruitful. There is a great gain for
international good will in the fact that
the United States and Great Britain, in
the construction and maintenance of their
immense navies, no longer regard each
other as enemies, but as lasting friends.

No Dreadnought laid down in a British
yard threatens this country; no keel laid
in an American yard is looked upon with
apprehension in the mother land. We
have lately had a practical application of
this mutual want of suspicion in the de-
cision of the British admiralty to ex-
clude the American navy from estimates
of the two-power standard which regu-
lates the size of the British navy.

The United States is not one of the two pos-
sible enemies which the British navy is
expected to be able to overwhelm. More-
over, although there is no actual agree-
ment between the two great English-
speaking nations, the predominance of
the United States in the western hemi-
sphere and our jealousy of foreign ag-
gression on this side of the Atlantic are
recognized in England as constituting a
protective element of sufficient value to
warrant the practical withdrawal of British
naval forces from our waters. These
conditions, which have naturally arisen,
give considerable point to the first of Mr.
Carnegie's propositions for an interna-
tional agreement. Any aggressive move-
ment against British possessions in our
neighborhood would normally give rise to
disquietude among our people, and might
conceivably draw us into the controversy,
at least diplomatically. We could, with-
out doing violence to our traditions, insist
upon maintenance of the territorial status
quo of our immediate neighbors during
any conflict between England and any
European power, thus measurably real-
izing Mr. Carnegie's ideal.

In the Pacific Ocean the situation is
vastly different. There the principal naval
and military power is Great Britain's ally.
We have no fear of attack in that quarter
at present, save from that ally. Yet, even
there the moral influence of Great
Britain is believed to have been exerted
in a recent crisis to prevent her ally from
taking an extreme course. If this belief
be true, the situation had some sort of
resemblance to that contemplated in Mr.
Carnegie's second proposition. It might
be somewhat difficult, however, to work
out an arrangement by which Great Brit-
ain would protect our Asiatic possessions,
though our own agreement with Japan is
in effect a relinquishment by England's
ally of aggressive design upon them. The
fact is that Great Britain's naval force
in the Pacific is not powerful enough for
any such undertaking as is proposed by
Mr. Carnegie, and her own possessions
there, notably the commonwealth of Aus-
tralia, viewed the demonstration of the
American fleet as affording a new security
to English-speaking colonies in the
Orient. If there is any quarter of the
world in which American policy is likely
to demand a preponderant force, it is the
Pacific Ocean, and our national pride will
hardly tolerate playing second fiddle to
any power in that coming theater of
events.

Of course, to both of Mr. Carnegie's
proposals may be urged the objection that
they contravene our traditional aversion
to foreign entanglements and alliances.
But when the alternative is the foreign
policy of continually augmenting arma-
ments, with their heavy tax upon produc-
tive industry, it may well be asked
whether judicious understandings with
other nations, not involving us in their
affairs, but directed solely to the pro-
tection of our own interests where they
coincide with those of the other contract-
ing party, would not be preferable to the
sustentation of immense fleets at an ex-
hausting expenditure. If peace can be
preserved by any other means than the
constant preparation for war and the
progressive increase of war burdens, it is
surely the duty of the statesmen of all
nations to address themselves to the busi-
ness of providing such means. Whether
practicable or not, Mr. Carnegie's sug-
gestions at least look in the right direc-
tion.

Horror! That Snafack of Novibazar
bing has managed to get into the press
dispatches again!

"Ex-Senator Foraker, of Ohio, has, it is
reported, about decided to cease using
Brownsville as his principal business."

says the Chicago Record-Herald. All the
same, he came out of that conflict with
more genuine credit to himself than did
any other participant, and we doubt not
history will so record it.

Last Thursday in April.

As the United States Senate has twice
voted to change inauguration day, it is
obviously wise to adhere to the propo-
sition thus approved—the resolution so
carefully framed by the late Senator
Hoar for an amendment to the Constitu-
tion fixing the last Thursday in April
as the date. Only a slight change will be
required in the Dewey resolution to put
it in conformity with the original resolu-
tion, and, no doubt, there will be ready
acquiescence in that change. Having ap-
proved it with practical unanimity before,
the Senate may be expected to do so
again, and there should then be reason-
able certainty of concurrence by the
House.

Arguments for a change are so over-
whelming and convincing and so generally
understood that reiteration and repetition
of them are needless. Reports of sickness
and death of visitors to Washington last
week came from every quarter. If a
list of victims of the blizzard could be
made up, it would be appalling. The
treacherous character of early March
weather was emphasized in a most de-
plorable manner. To-day the strongest
advocates of a change are those govern-
ors who came to participate in the cere-
monies, and the legislatures of their
States may be depended upon speedily to
ratify the action of Congress.

George Washington was inaugurated the
last Thursday in April. This historic
precedent should be followed. And the
general committee is wise in urging ad-
herence to that date.

The senate of Nevada recently voted
down a resolution demanding the free
coinage of silver. Surely, surely, we may
now consider it unanimous.

Some More "Unwritten Law."

So the highly interesting and smug Col.
Cooper, of Carmack murder fame, has
pleaded the "unwritten law" in justifica-
tion of that bloody business, after all. Not
the usually cited variety, of course—that
being well outside the range of the pos-
sible—but something quite new, not to
say novel, nevertheless.

Said Gen. Meeks, the colonel's counsel,
speaking to the jury for and in behalf of
his client:

"When a man sits, as Carmack did, behind
the editorial counter of a paper and writes, day
after day, editorials that attack and assault a man
who is not himself in an editorial position, he
commits insult, and there is no greater insult
possible."

"Oh, gentlemen, I tell you that the streets of
this city, have run red before with the blood
of men who improperly used other men's names in
public prints."

"The prosecution will tell you you have your
revenge in the courts. Yes, and you get a judg-
ment for \$2,000 against a man not worth the price
of a pig of tobacco. Is that satisfaction?"

In other words, "shoot the editor," and
trust to a jury of your "peers" to pull
you through subsequently on a phase of
the "unwritten law" here newly enun-
ciated and defined.

Moreover, and in addition to the quota-
tions heretofore set down from the argu-
ment of the eloquent Gen. Meeks—who
is evidently the "colonel's" superior officer,
as well as his senior counsel—witness the
following:

"You are not trying common thieves or mur-
ders now, gentlemen. You are trying men who
come from as free stock as ever human flesh
was made of—the best people of the South."

Evidently Senator Carmack made a
great mistake, so far as the possible con-
viction of his murderers was concerned,
in not having his life snuffed out by a
Reelfoot Lake fisherman—they are con-
victed, on occasions, it appears, in Ten-
nessee—or "po' white trash" of parallel
persuasion. Instead of beating the gal-
lant Col. Cooper, and the unmistakable
chip off the old block, who actually fired
the fatal shots, it appears the living
friends and acquaintances of the dead
man should assemble themselves into con-
ventions and pass resolutions of high ap-
preciation, and so forth, that Carmack
was sent to his eternal reward aristoc-
ratically and by chivalric hands, if
somewhat precipitately.

Again, the late Carmack's immediate
and crowning offense seems to have been
the designation of the noble colonel as
the "diplomat of the zwelbund"—what-
ever that was. This was fatal. True, other
men in Tennessee had frequently men-
tioned the colonel as a rather "notorious
gambler," an "embezzler of the funds of
women and children," and a "crooked pol-
itician," and other inconsequential and
playful things of that kind, but until the
luckless Carmack appeared on the scene
nobody had ever dared hurl so formi-
dable a thing as "diplomat of the zwel-
bund" at his good gray head; and it was,
naturally, too much for his sensitive and
grand old soul.

Wherefore, under the "unwritten law,"
as latterly interpreted, it was in order,
beyond question, to "shoot the editor,"
and vindicate the colonel's besmirched
honor.

Verily and of a certainty, we are falling
on some amazing times, in so far as mod-
ern murder trials are concerned, this
time around. It is not to the credit of
the immensely patriotic and blue-
blooded colonel and his jury of "peers"
being somewhat near the ultimate limit,
assuredly.

Just exactly how much real interest
Mr. Bryan takes in this proposition to
change the date of inauguration day
probably would be very difficult to gauge.

The Fight Against the House Rules.

It is unfortunate that so promising a
movement for the revision of the House
rules as that now under way should be
jeopardized by a false alarm about the
danger of delay to the tariff bill should
the rules question be brought up in the
extra session. President Taft's solicitude
that the tariff bill should be put upon its
passage as quickly as possible may be
easily understood, for the entire business
community is awaiting the completion of
the tariff schedules. No one wants any
foolish and merely factious obstruction
of tariff legislation, least of all the men
who are trying to secure certain reason-
able modifications of the rules. They ex-
pressly disclaim any intention of delaying
action on the tariff, or of desiring to do
so. Their aim is simply to bring to test
the sentiment of the House respecting
proposed reforms in the rules. This can
be done only at the beginning of the ses-
sion. Otherwise the whole matter goes

over to some indefinite period in the
future, when the organization of the
House shall have been made up against
any change.

We trust the so-called insurgents and
the Democratic minority will stand close-
ly together in this matter, and insist upon
a consideration of the rules before be-
ginning business. Plenty of time will be
wasted on the tariff before that is dis-
posed of, and some of the waste might
as well be discounted by utilizing a little
time at the opening of get started right.

There is little sense, in fact, in beginning
consideration of a tariff bill, so far as the
minority is concerned, under rules or a
system of applying the gag that will shut
off the right of amendment in the House.
All discussion of the bill will be useless
save as verbal protest. If the methods
in vogue at the last session are continued,
as they are likely to be, to expedite busi-
ness, the disagreeing members of the
minority might as well remain at home
and issue daily statements of their views
as to be on the floor without any power
to offer amendments, or to test the sense
of the House on particular issues. It is
to prevent this tying up of the rights of
members that modification of the rules
is sought.

We do not like to think President Taft
is throwing his influence on the wrong
side of this controversy. There are some
indications that he is trying to pursue
a neutral course, merely giving warning
to both sides that the particular business
before Congress is the tariff, and that
the country will brook no useless delays
in the consideration of a matter so vital
to the national prosperity. If this should
be the correct version of his attitude, the
insurgents have no reason to adopt an
indecisive policy. They should demand a
fair hearing, and insist upon the right of
the majority, at the opening of the ses-
sion, to determine the rules of the House.

"The women of Chile ask their hus-
bands no questions," says the South
Bend (Ind.) News. That is no sign,
though, their husbands tell them no
short and uglier.

"Uncle Andy" Carnegie has expressed a
willingness to finance a real jam-up
north pole expedition. If the Eskimos
are interested in libraries, they will push
this expedition along all they possibly
can.

So far as the Democrats are concerned,
probably February 29 would be as useful
to them as any other date for inaugura-
tion purposes.

"Of course, Grover Cleveland was a
great man, but why count him twice?"
says the Knoxville Sentinel, in discussing
whether Mr. Taft is the twenty-sixth or
twenty-seventh President. Well, as the
Rome (Ga.) Tribune-Herald suggests, "it
is about the only way the Democrats can
make much of a showing in post-civil
war Presidential statistics."

"We hope we've heard the last of The
Washington Herald's bragging about the
Capital as a winter resort," says the
Cleveland Leader. Of course, you hope
it; so do any number of Washington's
would-be rivals in this regard. The green-
eyed complaint is not unusual.

Among various fool things proposed in
legislation here and there, we have
never noticed a proposition to reduce the
members' pay.

Even now we shudder to think of the
"possum shover" fated to descend on the
White House next Thanksgiving Day.

A reformer suggests that unmarried
men over a certain age be addressed as
"Mist." In order to mark them for con-
firmed bachelors. That would be rather
cruel, we think. "Mist" looks like sim-
plified spelling for "missed."

It seems that there are forty-seven frog
farms in this country. We trust the
prohibitionists will see nothing alarming
in this growing hog industry, however.

"The big stick is now spiced and
canned," says the Augusta Chronicle.
And the ginger jar as empty as the
average campaign promise.

We note a little interview with Count
Bonifacio Castellani recently published, in
which he says, "I was thinking only yes-
terday." Good! Also hearty congratula-
tions! Bonifacio's mental equipment is evi-
dently vastly improved.

"Danger lurks in eggs" says a physi-
cian. We knew something would happen
to spoil the full enjoyment of a falling
market.

Why is it that an all but irresistible
desire comes over you to consign the
telephone operator to the Ananias Club
every time you are informed the line
wanted is "busy now"?

The Tennessee legislature has ad-
justed, and the Carmack murder trial
is nearing its end. It must seem to the
old Volunteer State almost too good to
be true.

Says Alphonse Mateuhito to Gaston
Taft, "Let us have peace." Says Gaston
Taft to Alphonse Mateuhito, "Sure, Mat."

Where Is He At?

This Judge Dickinson is a queer sort
of person. He is "of Tennessee," but
lives in Chicago, Ill.; he is of the Demo-
cratic party, but he doesn't vote for the
Democratic Presidential nominee. What's
the answer?

Putting It Over "Uncle Joe."

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.
It was bad enough when Uncle Joe
didn't get to carry the banner; it was
worse when his salary failed; but to
have to preside right away over a
session of tariff revision—that's the limit.

An Uncertain Quantity.

From the Richmond Times-Dispatch.
Gov. Hoke Smith is preparing to raise
chickens to supply his own table. No
doubt experience will have taught the
governor not to count any of them there-
fore they are hatched.

Chief Beneficiary.

From the Chicago News.
German inventors are making guns for
the destruction of dirigible war balloons,
which also will be armed. The man be-
hind the gun factory profits both coming
and going.

Our British Cousins.

From the New York World.
Great Britain's trade is falling off; but
what can you expect of a people who
won't heat their houses in winter because
grandfather didn't?

He Might Queer It.

From the Indianapolis News.
In case there could be a change in the
date of the inauguration wouldn't it be
wise to keep the fact concealed from the
weather man?

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

AS TO THESES.

Thebes, the founder of the art,
Sang country ballads from a cart.

And, furthermore, as I opine,
The papers he refused to sign.

Thebes, 'tis also safe to bet,
Broke in the jokes we're using yet.

Thebes, the slapstick used with vim,
Oh, actors owe a deal to him.

A Substitute.

"I never seem to say the right thing at
the right time."
"Why not keep still?"

Spring Approaches.

And now the busy druggist man re-
plenishes the sulphur can; unto the job-
ber writes his needs concerning bulbs and
garden seeds; removes the fountain from
dry dock, and puts dry paper into stock.

Luxury.

"I'd like to wake up some morning and
find myself famous."
"Why?"
"I'd feel that I could afford to roll over
and go to sleep again."

Endless Toil.

No rest we know.
We ashes now.
In winter months, alas!
And even spring.
Its task doth bring.
For then we sift the grass.

Driven to It.

"What does the Shakespeare Club dis-
cuss?"
"Depends on who's present. If there's
a full quota of ladies in attendance they
discuss Shakespeare."

A Skeetch Team.

"The old team has parted company."
"What old team?"
"Ham still plays to popular prices, but
Eggs is now a big star."

Sounded Like It.

"He who gives quickly gives twice."
"Does that mean that you expect to
come around later and hit me for another
subscription?"

OBLIGATIONS TO ALIENS.

Plea for Legislation to Protect Their Lives and Liberties.

Senator Root to New York Republican Club.

"The nation ought promptly to enact
legislation to enforce the obligations of its
treaties within our own territory. As
we grow greater, as our wealth increases
and the travel of our people in foreign
lands grows, as more and more of our
people of other countries come to our
country, we more and more rub elbows
with our neighbors and incur wider obli-
gations with the nations. All our im-
portance, our power, our influence, our
enjoyment of happy relations with the
nations depends on our determination to
fulfill our obligations."

"Our Constitution gives to our national
government the right to protect the peo-
ple of foreign countries in the exercise
of their rights here just as other coun-
tries protect our citizens in foreign
lands. If a man comes here from Eu-
rope or from Asia, he brings with him
through the jurisdiction of our courts,
our Congress has not yet discharged the
duty of giving to the Federal courts the
exercise of criminal jurisdiction."

"So while we protect the property of
foreigners we do not protect their lives
and liberties. When mob law reigns in
foreign countries, when his most sacred
rights are set at naught this great im-
perial government is obliged to give the
reply that we have no power to keep
our citizens safe."

"I hope that you will exercise your in-
fluence toward urging our national gov-
ernment to repair the defect in our law
which prevents the nation from keeping its
word."

BANKS AND PANICS.

Folly of Idea that Financial Troubles Are Purposely Created.

J. Lawrence Laughlin, in Scribner's Magazine.
There may be many persons of the Up-
ton Sinclair type who really think that
bank panics are natural, so placed that to
bring on a panic would bring on its own de-
struction. Every one knows that in the
liabilities of a bank account appear the
items indicating its obligation to share-
holders for the capital, surplus, and pro-
fits, as well as the items of deposits indi-
cating the sums left with the bank which
may be drawn on demand. On the other
hand, the bank lends its resources—
whether coming from capital or deposits—
and receives as its only security assets
from whose recurring maturity its loans
are repaid. If these assets, such as col-
lateral composed of stocks and bonds, or
paper based on the sale of goods, should
lose their basis of value the banks would
lose. They have already given the bor-
rower the right to draw, and they get
repayment by the borrower only in na-
ture. Hence, the only chance of the bank
to regain what they have parted with
lies in the assets retaining value enough
to cover the loans already made.

To suppose, therefore, that the bank
should ever have a motive for bringing
on a panic is to suppose that a sailor afloat
on the ocean in an open boat should
have a motive for punching a hole in
the bottom of the boat—the only thing
which saves him from destruction.

The popular supposition that the bank-
ers gain a special profit by the issue of
notes, which by right should go to the
government, is doubtless widespread. In
truth, there is per se no banking profit
except that arising from the discount on
loans; and since discounting or lending
can go on without issuing notes—as is
done in the case of the bank of the gov-
ernment—there is no profit in the bank
organized under State laws—then it is nat-
ural that the profit in banking is not due
to the issue of notes.

WHEN RAINBOWS CALL.

The snows have joined the little streams and slid
into the sea;
The mountain sides are damp and black and
steaming in the sun;
But spring who should be with us now is waiting
timidly.

For winter to unbar the gates and let the rivers
run.
It matters not how green the grass is lifting
through the mold;
How strong the sap is climbing out to every
valued bough;
That in the towns the market stalls are bright
with jessamine gold;
And over meadow and moorland the frogs are
singing now.

For still the waters grow and grind beneath the
icy floor;
And still the winds are hungry cold that leave
the valleys' mouth,
Expectantly each day we wait to hear the millen-
nium.

And see the blind and broken bird retreating to
the South.
One morning when the rainbirds call across the
slipping hills,
And the maple beds like tiny flames shine red
among the green,
The ice will burst asunder and go peering through
the hills;
An endless gray procession with the yellow flood
between.

Then the spring will no more linger, but come
with prompt short,
With music in the dry squares and laughter
down the lane;
The thrush will pipe at twilight to draw the blue-
birds out;
And the vanguard of the summer host will camp
with us again.

—Lord Roberts, in *Amulet's*.

WASHINGTON CHAT.

BY THE SPECTATOR.

Now that the appointment of the Cab-
inet and some of the high officials of this
administration have been disposed of,
there is much gossip regarding the diplo-
matic portfolios which will not im-
mediately be set at rest, since President
Taft has declared that he will not be in a
hurry to consider them. The people
most discussed in this connection are the
Bellamy Statesman, circumstances of
whose return from the Austrian court are
still fresh in the public mind. It is now
proclaimed that Mr. Storor "can have
anything he wants" and that, should he
so desire, he would be allowed to replace
Whitelaw Reid at the Court of St. James.

It is said that gossip lives only nine
days, but the recall of Ambassador Storor
was much more than gossip. Mr. Roose-
velt sent the following peremptory dis-
patch of recall, through his Secretary of
State, Mr. Root:

I have the honor to advise your excellency
that the President has decided to terminate
once, and without any such delay as would be
incidental to the transmission of a letter of recall
by mail, the appointment of Ambassador Mr.
Storor, to represent him. The President has, ac-
cordingly, recalled Mr. Storor, whose representative
functions have since been terminated, and will be
supplemented by a formal letter of recall, which
already has been signed and will be presented to
you in accordance with the former custom in such
matters.

Secretary Rives, of the Vienna Embassy, has
been named as chargé. I request your excellency
to receive him and treat him in that capacity.

No one will leave Washington with
regret that Mr. and Mrs. Straus
will not be any more regretted, for
the Secretary of Commerce and Labor and
his talented wife have done much for the
pleasure of society since they took up a
residence here. It is interesting to re-
count that the Strauses came to the
Capital with almost as much regret as
they now leave it. Mrs. Straus says that
her heart sank when her husband an-
nounced that President Roosevelt had asked him
to be a member of his Cabinet. Washing-
ton is so small to her, such a village
after Greater New York, anything, she
thought, but that. Like all people, how-
ever, who remain in Washington long
enough, she in time became converted by
its charm, and now feels it is the only
place in America where one can live and
be thoroughly happy. Some of her home
life here, but just now it is written that they
shall go beyond the seas, for Mr. Straus
is slated for the Ambassadorship to
Japan, where he will undoubtedly be a
persona grata.

When he was Minister to Turkey, Mr.
Straus made a remarkable record, and se-
cured many privileges for his countrymen
in the Ottoman empire that none of his
predecessors had been able to obtain. For
instance, the right of selling Bibles and
tracts in Turkey and her tributaries had
been denied the American missionaries,
and one of Mr. Straus' first acts after
he came to Constantinople was to secure
this right, which was granted not only
to missionaries, but to collectors.

This was only one of many privileges he
secured for Americans, and while he was
more aggressive, perhaps, than any of
his predecessors, whatever his motives,
he secured the confidence and friendship of
the Sultan and was generally regretted when
he was recalled.

The latest victim of a long residence
in the Philippines is Gen. Pershing, son-
in-law of Senator Warren, of Wyoming,
who has been granted six months' leave
of absence, with permission to go beyond
the seas to recover his health, impaired
by duty in our Asiatic possessions. This
announcement occasioned great surprise
to his friends, who had never before
known him as a well man, but now it seems
he is in for a long invalidism, and will go
at once to Watkins Glen to recuperate.

He is said to be in the best of health, but
Pershing, in the meantime, will stay at
home in Cheyenne, but will come East
shortly.

However popular the acquisition of the
Philippines may be to a certain extent
in America, it is, naturally, unpopular
with those who have suffered through
the service of their friends and relatives
in those islands, for philippinism is an
acknowledged disease. The other night
at a dinner in the West End a young
military officer suddenly stopped in the
middle of telling a story and looked blankly
before him. "What is the matter?"
asked the woman, who had never before
known him as a well man, but now it seems
he is in for a long invalidism, and will go
at once to Watkins Glen to recuperate.

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military officer suddenly stopped in the
middle of telling a story and looked blankly